



# University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg

150 Finoli Drive  
Greensburg, PA 15601  
724-837-7040

May 14, 2009

Ms. Karin Stein  
830 Juniper Ave.  
Kellogg, Iowa 50135

Dear Karin:

I wish to thank you, Ed, and the other musicians of *Los Llaneros* for your fabulous workshop and performance at the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg on Thursday, April 9<sup>th</sup>. Both were absolutely first rate. The feedback from students, faculty, and staff alike was overwhelmingly enthusiastic, and I continually get requests to bring you back to campus soon.

The music was truly superb and your vocal interpretation of the beautiful songs from your native region of the Llanos between eastern Colombia and central Venezuela was so impressive. You communicate the way of life, the joys of nature, and the emotional essence of the *llanos* and expertly convey those emotions to the audience members. The workshop and performance were a delight for us all, full of joy, energy, warmth, and fun. Your natural, warm interaction with the audience brought about a wonderful engagement and participation by all those who attended through singing along or clapping out the rhythm. The experience was not only entertaining, but educational as well. We loved hearing about the people, the geography of the area, the origins of the *llanero* music, and the explanations of the different musical instruments used. The audience was mesmerized by your beautiful voice, the harp and drum solos, and Ed's incredible maracas demonstration.

As organizer of the events, I am especially thankful for your flexibility at changing campus venues for the afternoon workshop and the evening performance and working with us with other needs. It was indeed a pleasure to work with you and to have you here.

Thank you for keeping alive these unique ethnic folkloric musical traditions and for sharing with us a form of Latin American music that we were not familiar with and have fallen in love with.

I look forward to having *Los Llaneros* come again in the future for additional outstanding, moving and memorable workshops and performances.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nancy Flórez-Estrada".

Nancy B. Flórez-Estrada, Ph.D  
Associate Professor of Hispanic Languages and Literature  
Director, International Academic Village  
University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg.